of runway, construction of new taxi- track and apron are in progress. The tenders for construction of new terminal building, other technical buildings and car park are under scrutiny for award of work. Estimated cost of the project is Rs. 79.27 Crore. The project is likely to be completed in November, 2003.

(b) At present, Turkmenistan airlines are operating five services per week, Uzbekistan Airways are operating six services per week to Amritsar, and Indian Airlines are operating twice weekly flight on Delhi-Amritsar-Sharjah & return route.

(c) Approval has been given to Ariana Afghan Airlines to operate twice weekly services to Amritsar. Approval has also been given to Uzbekistan Airways to operate upto seven frequencies each week in each direction between Amritsar and Tashkent.

DME at Madurai Airport

4961. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up High Power Distance Measuring Equipment (DME) at Madurai Airport considering such facilities have been extended even to smaller airports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) A High Power Distance Measuring Equipment (DME) is already in operation at Madurai airport.

(c) Does not arise.

Participation of foreign investors in domestic flights

†4962. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the aeroplane manufacturing countries in the world are competing with each other to influence and create market in India;

(b) if so, the number of owners of foreign aeroplane manufacturing companies who participated in International Aerospace Conference held in Hyderabad recently;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.